



Marcham WI January 2011

We wish a Happy New Year for 2011 to all MADNews readers and especially the ladies of Marcham WI. We start our programme for this calendar year with a local historian, Liz Woolley. Her talk, with slides, will be about Child Labour in Victorian Oxfordshire and this promises to be very interesting.

During December a group of members had a stall at Marcham School Christmas Fair and raised some money for the school and a local charity. We thoroughly enjoyed our annual visit to Oxford Town Hall for the Oxfordshire Federation of WIs Christmas songs led with great skill and style by Christine Whild.

We had three new members join Marcham WI at the end of 2010 and if anyone has thought about joining us, why not come along at the start of the year.

Future Events

- Jan 28** Sheep Day at Ducklington
- Feb 24** New Zealand day at Kirtlington
- March 9** Shakespeare at Denman with Jane Lapotaire
- March 15** Music Taster Day at Benson Village Hall

NEXT MEETING

7.30pm Thursday 20 January 2011

Child Labour in Victorian Oxfordshire

Liz Woolley

Visitors welcome - £3 voluntary contribution

Contacts for: Sonia Edwards 01865 391442
more information Christine Whild 01865 391270

MARCHAM SOCIETY MIDWEEK WALK

Thursday, January 13th 2011.

For this month's walk we will visit quiet farmland around Cote and Aston near Bampton. However we will eat at the Bell Inn (Map Ref SP352033) in High Street, Standlake at 12.30pm for lunch, but start the walk of about 4½ miles in Cote (Map Ref SP3352030) at 1.30, parking at the side of the minor road to Chimney. New walkers are always very welcome so do start the year in good company. Members free, non-members £1. Ring Eric Dunford on 391439 for lifts and details.



SUNSHINE CLUB

We have now broken up for a Christmas break and return to our club on January 10th. We had a good year with three outings and a Christmas lunch at the Boundary House with help from local trusts. which we would like to thank very much as we are down on members due to ill health. If you are interested in coming along on a Monday from 2.30pm - 4pm you would be very welcome. Phone 391536 for details.

MAUREEN (MO) TIDBURY, Chairlady

MARCHAM CRICKET CLUB

With a view to the start of the new 2011 OCA Season, Marcham CC would be pleased to hear from those interested in playing for the Club – any age and level of ability welcome.

Information (including the commencement of Nets early next year) may be obtained from Trevor Hill (391321). Also, Trevor may be contacted by those interested in umpiring on behalf of the Club.

Best Wishes for the new year.



CSB

Dexters Rescue Damsels

Carnivorous butterwort, the elegant grass-of-Parnassus and the scarce southern damselfly, to name just a few plants and insects, are all unique to fens, one of the richest environments in the UK. Yet fens are becoming increasingly scarce and very unusual for Central England. As part of **BBOWT's Cothill Fen Project**, work is underway to restore and enhance a cluster of four wonderfully varied spring-fed fens in Oxon: Gozzard's Ford Fen, Dry Sandford Pit, Lashford Lane Fen and Parsonage Moor. As well as monitoring water levels and routine conservation work such as scrub clearing, we are preparing the way for livestock to graze the nature reserves on a regular basis.

Over the next few months BBOWT will be replacing old fencing, installing new fencing and a stock pen at Dry Sandford Pit to allow grazing to be introduced next summer. This is part of the **Cothill Fen Project** and an important step for the wonderful wildlife of this fantastic reserve. In particular, the fen associated species such as the striking southern damselfly which is nationally and internationally rare and has suffered a 30% decline in its UK distribution since 1960. In order to breed, these picky damsels in distress require fast flowing calcium rich open water of between 7 to 14cm depth as well as emergent vegetation to lay their eggs on! The site is ideal but even with local volunteers' best efforts it is a struggle to stay on top of encroaching scrub. We need help to keep the fen open and so are calling on three dexter cows to come to the rescue. Grazing will also benefit many other plants and insects including the delicate marsh helleborine orchid and the beautiful scarlet tiger moth. We apologise for any disruption caused to your visits whilst this work is happening but please bear with us as it is vital for the future wildlife of the site. There will be more details about the grazing later in the year. Also, look out for our volunteer event in the diary. For more information about this work or to talk about volunteering opportunities on this project please contact Louise Print-Lyons on louiseprint-lyons@bbowt.org.uk or 01865 775476 ext 237



The
**Marcham
Society**

Annual Lecture The Life and Work of Roald Dahl

Claire Field

All Saints' Church Tuesday 11th January 2011, 7.45pm

Next meeting 8th February 2011
Woodland Archaeology & Ecology

Non-members £2

www.marchamsociety.org.uk

Further details: Sheila Dunford (391439) or Judith Fontaine (391275)